Impact of deficiency of monsoon

2033. SHRI R.C. SINGH:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the deficiency of monsoon by about 20-25 per cent has resulted in the contraction in agriculture output and GDP growth this year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As reported by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), during South-West Monsoon 2009 (1.6.2009 to 30.9.2009), the country as a whole received 689.8 mm of rainfall against normal average rainfall of 892.2 mm which represents a deviation of -23%. The following table gives the deficit in kharif agricultural production in 2009-10 based on the First Advance Estimates of Agricultural Production, 2009-10 released by the Ministry of Agriculture on 3.11.2009 and the fourth Advance Estimates for 2008-09.

Table : Kharif Production (Million Tonnes)

Crop	2009-10 (First Advance Estimates)	2008-09 (Fourth Advance Estimates)	Difference
Rice	69.45	84.58	-15.13
Coarse Cereals	22.76	28.34	-5.58
Total Kharif Pulses	4.42	4.78	-0.36
Total Foodgrains	96.63	117.70	-21.07
Oilseeds	15.23	17.88	-2.65
Sugarcane	249.48	273.93	-24.45
Cotton $	23.66	23.16	0.50
Jute and Mesta $$	10.25	10.40	-0.15

$Production in '000 bales of 170 kg. each

$$Production in '000 bales of 180 kg. each

The estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO) on 30.11.2009 for the second quarter of 2009-10 indicate that combined group of agriculture, forestry and fishing has grown by 1.7 percent during the first half of 2009-10 (on 1999-2000 constant prices), as compared to the growth of 2.9 per cent recorded during the same period of last year. Government of India has taken a number of steps to protect the standing crops and to ensure that no land remains unsown for want of inputs so that the losses

in kharif can partially be offset by augmented production in rabi season. The following are some of the important measures taken to reduce the impact of deficit in rainfall:

(i) States were requested to prepare alternate plan for unsown/germination failed areas with short duration/alternate crops.

(ii) Use of Truthfully Labelled (TL) seeds, relaxation of age for seed varieties and distribution of minikits allowed under the Government Programmes (National Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana).

(iii) Fund made available under the Centrally Sponsored Programmes to enable taking up of agriculture re-construction programme.

(iv) Additional *ad-hoc* monthly allocation of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) category under Public Distribution System (PDS) to drought affected States, for October to December, 2009 was made.

(v) A scheme of Diesel Subsidy for drought and deficit rainfall affected areas was announced for the drought affected States and districts with deficit rainfall of more than 50% as on 15th July, 2009, for the period upto 30/9/09. The scheme was subsequently relaxed to include areas with prolonged dry-spell for any continuous 15 days period starting from 15.7.2009 for those areas with scanty rainfall (-60% or more).

Discussion on protectionism in G-20

2034. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister urged the participants of G-20 Meeting to shun protectionism;

(b) whether G-20 summit has laid ground work for long term prosperity and financial reforms;

(c) the other main points that were discussed during the summit and to what extent these measures helped India to improve economy;

(d) to what extent the suggestions made by the Prime Minister in G-20 have been welcomed by all; and

(e) the overall outcome of the talks held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes sir.

(b) Yes sir.

(c) Statement is laid on the table on the house.

(d) The Statements made were generally welcomed by all the G-20 countries.

(e) This is contained in the statement laid at (c) above.